



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 547

January Session, 2009

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1079

Senate, April 8, 2009

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. HARRIS of the 5th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT HEALTH INFORMATION NETWORK.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) Notwithstanding any
2 provision of chapter 14, 319, 319b, 319o, 319t, 319v, 368a or 368z of the
3 general statutes, or any regulation adopted pursuant to said chapters,
4 the state agencies that participate in the Connecticut Health
5 Information Network, subject to federal restrictions on disclosure or
6 redisclosure of information, may disclose personally identifiable
7 information held in agency databases to the administrator of the
8 Connecticut Health Information Network and its subcontractors for
9 the purposes of (1) network development and verification, and (2) data
10 integration and aggregation to enable response to network queries. No
11 state agency that participates in the Connecticut Health Information
12 Network shall disclose personally identifiable information to the
13 Connecticut Health Information Network if such disclosure would
14 constitute a violation of federal law, including, but not limited to, the

15 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-
16 191) (HIPAA), as amended from time to time, and the Family
17 Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 USC 1232g, (FERPA),
18 as amended from time to time, and any regulations promulgated
19 thereunder at 34 CFR Part 99. The administrator of the Connecticut
20 Health Information Network and its subcontractors shall not disclose
21 personally identifiable information.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2009	New section

PH *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

There is no fiscal impact for certain agencies to disclose personally identifiable information to the Connecticut Health Information Network.

The Out Years

None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 1079*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT HEALTH
INFORMATION NETWORK*****SUMMARY:**

This bill allows state agencies participating in the Connecticut Health Information Network (CHIN) to disclose personally identifiable information in their data bases to the CHIN administrator and its subcontractors for (1) network development and verification and (2) data integration and aggregation to allow for responses to network inquiries. Such disclosure is subject to federal restrictions on disclosure or redisclosure of such information. The CHIN administrator and CHIN subcontractors must not disclose personally identifiable information.

The bill prohibits state agencies participating in CHIN from disclosing information to CHIN if it would be a violation of federal law, including the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and associated regulations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2009

BACKGROUND***CHIN***

State law (CGS § 19a-25e) authorizes the Department of Public Health (DPH) and the UConn Health Center (UCHC), within available appropriations, to develop a CHIN plan. This plan is to integrate state health and social services data within and across the UCHC, the Office of Health Care Access (OHCA), DPH, and the Developmental Services (DDS), and Children and Families (DCF) departments. Data from

other state agencies may be integrated into the network as funding and federal law permit. The CHIN must securely integrate this data consistent with state and federal laws.

The law requires DPH and UCHC's Center for Public Health and Health Policy to collaborate with the Department of Information Technology and DDS, DCF, and OHCA in developing the CHIN plan. The plan must:

1. include research in and describe existing health and human services data;
2. inventory the various health and human services data aggregation initiatives currently underway;
3. include a framework and options for implementing CHIN, including ways to use the network to get aggregate data on the state's key health indicators;
4. identify and comply with confidentiality, security, and privacy standards; and
5. include a detailed cost estimate for implementation and potential funding sources.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 30 Nay 0 (03/20/2009)